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Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 06910 290747Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DLOS-09
DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01
INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01
OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 FEA-01 /133 W
----------290751Z 045421 /17/70
P R 281825Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4258
INFO AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
SECDEF
CINCUSNAVEUR
COMSIXTHFLT
EUCOM
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 6910

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR TEXT

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, ENRG, PBOR, LY, IT, TS
SUBJECT: TUNISIAN-LIBYAN CONTINENTAL SHELF DISPUTE

REFS: (A) STATE 95427; (B) TUNIS 2903; (C) ROME 5938

1. DURING APRIL 28 CONVERSATION, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) OFFICE DIRECTOR FOR NORTH AFRICAN ECONOMIC AFFAIRS GALLI REPORTED THAT FRENCH HAD INFORMED GOT THAT SECURITY COUNCIL APPROACH BY GOT WAS LIKELY TO FAIL. GALLI HAD IMPRESSION (SIMILAR TO THAT REPORTED REF (B)) THAT GOF CONFIDENTIAL

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EFFORTS WOULD BE OF LIMITED SCOPE. GALLI CONFIRMED THAT GOF HAD NOT RPT NOT YET APPROACHED LARG.

2. RE REPLACEMENT OF SCARABEO IV BY READING & BATES DRILLING SHIP (NOT BARGE, AS IS SCARABEO IV), GALLI STATED THAT MFA HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT NEGOTIATIONS WERE AT ADVANCED STAGE AND THAT CONTRACT WOULD SOON BE SIGNED. HIS INFORMATION

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CAME FROM SCARABEO IV OPERATOR ENI/SAIPEM. EMBOFF INDICATED
THAT OUR INFORMATION ON STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS PARALLELED
HIS, THAT USG POSITION WAS BEING FORMULATED AND EXPRESSED
OUR CONCERN RE INVOLVEMENT OF US NATIONALS AND COMPANIES IN
DIFFICULT SITUATION.

3. IN RESPONSE TO EMBOFF'S QUESTION, GALLI SAID THAT NEITHER
ENI NOR GOI HAD INFORMED GOT OF NEGOTIATIONS OR PLANS TO
SUBSTITUTE SCARABEO IV WITH DIFFERENT RIG. GALLI INDICATED
THAT GOI WOULD HAVE TO EXAMINE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS MOVE ON
GOI-GOT AND GOI-LARG RELATIONS.

4. EMBOFF MADE APPOINTMENT WITH GALLI TO REVIEW FURTHER
SITUATION EARLY IN COMING WEEK.

5. COMMENT: REFTEL (A) APPEARS TO INDICATE THAT ENI/SAIPEM
AND LARG HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY COOPERATED TO SUBSTITUTE SCARABEO IV
WITH OTHER DRILLING RIG. IF THIS IMPLIES AGREEMENT BETWEEN
TWO ENTITIES, GALLI'S ORRIES EXPRESSED REF (C),
PARA 2, RE DAMAGE TO ENI (OR PERHAPS MORE GENERALLY
ITALIAN)-LARG RELATIONS WOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED.
GALLI DID NOT RPT NOT APPEAR AWARE OF THE LARG ROLE IN
THE READING & BATES NEGOTIATIONS.

6. FOR REVIEW WITH GALLI (WHICH WILL PROBABLY INCLUDE
GALLI'S POLITICAL AFFAIRS COUNTERPART), EMBASSY WOULD
APPRECIATE BEING ABLE TO SHARE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE, AS
PROMISED PARA 5, REFTEL (A), WITH GOI AND ANY ADDITIONAL
GUIDANCE RE ANY MOVES THAT USG MIGHT TAKE TO DISSUADE READING
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& BATES FROM SUBSTITUTING FOR SCARABEO IV. IRRESPECTIVE OF
ANY LONGER-TERM DAMAGE WHICH MAY OCCUR TO GOI-GOT AND GOI-LARG
RELATIONS, GOI PROBABLY VIEWS SUBSTITUTION AS SOLUTION TO
THEIR IMMEDIATE PROBLEM.GARDNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONTINENTAL SHELF, DISPUTES, TERRITORIAL WATERS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME06910
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977049/aaaaahcz.tel
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 166079aa-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 95427, 77 TUNIS 2903, 77 ROME 5938
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2902824
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TUNISIAN-LIBYAN CONTINENTAL SHELF DISPUTE
TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, ENRG, PBOR, LY, IT, TS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/166079aa-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009